

Minutes  
Hamilton Township Philatelic Society  
Hamilton Township Free Public Library  
Hamilton, New Jersey  
September 20, 2016

The September 2016 meeting of the Hamilton Township Philatelic Society was called to order by President Milton Keiles at 7:15pm with the recital of the pledge of Allegiance. There were 26 members and visitors in attendance.

**Visitors**

Rich Marolda renewed his HTPS membership and Bob Girmscheid a visitor from Maine who winters with daughter who lives in Trenton.

**APS Award**

President Milton Keiles presented past President Jeff Boyarsky the APS Sparkplug certificate for his contributions as President of the Hamilton Township Philatelic Society.

**Officers Reports**

There was no Reading of Minutes – It has been agreed that the minutes from previous meetings would be posted and placed on our website but not read.

Treasurer Dr. Ronald Gonzalez reported that there was \$2,852.12 in the Treasury. Approval of the Treasury Report was made by Andrew Boyajian and seconded by Bill Andersen.

Treasurer Dr. Ronald Gonzalez presented the Annual Budget to the membership for review and approval. He advised the membership that we anticipate a decrease of approximately \$200 from our existing cash position. The presented Annual Budget was put up to the membership for approval and was unanimously approved.

**Old & New Business**

The following is what transpired and it was a mixture of old and new business.

**Constitutional Amendments**

President Milton Keiles presented two amendments that Ed Murtha had suggested at the HTPS Executive Board meeting. After a brief discussion it was decided to table further discussion until they are written and reviewed by the membership. Ed Murtha is to write the resolutions and submit to the Hamilton Hinge Editor for some future edition.

**Membership**

President Milton Keiles stated his concern about the drop in membership. He discussed some of the things being done to hopefully attract some new members. From the American Philatelic Society, Jeff Boyarsky obtained 32 mailing labels of local APS members who do not belong to our Society. Milton

Keiles has put together a welcome letter and copy of the Hamilton Hinge package for each one. Milton plans to mail the packet in the next week or so. Dennis Kennedy has also contacted the APS about getting more names and addresses. He is reviewing the local zip codes in NJ & PA that are in our local area. He will then ask APS to send computer ready file of names/addresses of APS members in those zip code locations. At the last APS mailing which was over ten years ago, we had hundreds of names rather than just 32. Another mailing will probably become necessary based on what the APS provides Dennis.

Jeff Boyarsky announced that he is the new HTPS Membership Chairman instead of Dr. Jack Sack.

### **Publicity**

Tony Zingale suggested reinstating the notification of the local newspapers of our monthly meetings. Everyone seemed to agree that it is a good idea but no one volunteered to do it. Ed Murtha noted the problems and frustrations with getting the various newspapers to print our monthly meetings on a regular basis. Tony Zingale made another good point that the papers may be more willing to post our meeting notices if we also advise them of the monthly guest speaker and their topic. He cited the cross over crowd drawn by the recent visit of Patricia Kaufmann's talk on Confederate Philately as an example.

No members offered to take on this task. Jeff Boyarsky will have to look into resolving this issue since he handles HTPS Publicity.

Visitor Bob Girmscheid advised us of a technique that his stamp club used in Maine that attracted new members to their club. They offered an Adult Education class on evaluating (but not appraising since that requires a license) your stamp collection. Bob said they had five or six guys with knowledge in various areas of philatelic expertise to review the student material and help them determine what they had. Bob said that a few of the students each year would then decide to join their club. Dr. Jess Rosenberg has offered to look into this concept locally. His wife knows someone responsible for the Hamilton Township Adult Education.

### **Elimination of Free Annual HTPS Dues Perk**

President Milton Keiles proposed the elimination of the December 2014 resolution to provide free membership to any HTPS member who brings in a new member or joins the APS. There was a brief discussion but it was resolved by a majority vote to eliminate this. Joe Seliga approved the motion and Andrew Boyajian seconded it.

Visitor Bob Girmscheid then suggested that any HTPS member that **did not** bring in a new member be charged \$20. Nothing was done on this suggestion.

### **Mini Auction – Donation of Scott catalogue**

Don Getzin donated a 2013 Scott US Specialized Catalogue to the Society for auction. Ron Dobrowolski outbid Ed Murtha for it. Ron got it for \$15.

### **Road Trip to APS Library – Bellefonte, PA**

Dr. Ronald Gonzalez is planning a trip to the grand opening of the American Philatelic Society's new expanded library on Saturday October 29, 2016. He wanted to know if anyone wanted to join him.

### **Member Collecting Interest List and email Addresses**

Tony Zingale advised everyone to look at the printed list being passed around that has most HTPS member's Collecting Interest on it. He wanted everyone in attendance to confirm that the interests are correct and complete and that the email addresses were still valid.

### **Adjournment**

The meeting broke at 7:43pm. There was no formal adjournment. Ken Smith won the 50/50. I do not know who won Andrew Boyajian's cover, the other 50/50 prize.

### **Presentation**

Mr. Mac Sarreal, the President of the Merchantville Stamp Club and member of the International Philippine Philatelic Society (IPPS), provided us his "Japanese Occupation of the Philippines" presentation.

### **Next Meeting**

Our next meeting will be held on October 18, 2016.